



State Representative Sean Williams

Dear Friend,

It continues to be an honor and a privilege to serve as the state representative for the 68th District in the House of Representatives.

This Annual Report covers the state budget, and a number of critical issues that were addressed by the legislature during the 2005 session.

As always, if you have any questions or comments concerning the 2005 session, please contact my office at any time.

Sincerely,

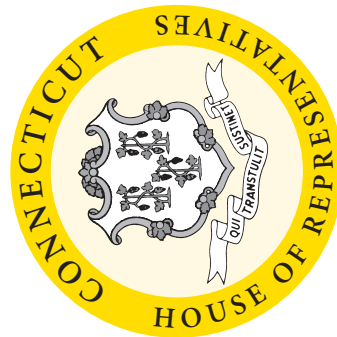


Rep. Williams with former NBA star Charles Smith, now of the Charles D. Smith Jr. Foundation.



Representative Williams welcomes students from Mitchell School to the State Capitol.

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Hartford, CT
Permit #3937



State Representative
SEAN WILLIAMS
Proudly Serving the 68th District
Watertown ★ Oakville ★ Woodbury



Representative Sean Williams
Room 4200, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

TELEPHONE:
(800) 842-1423

E-MAIL:
sean.williams@housegop.state.ct.us

Please visit our website www.housegop.state.ct.us

2005 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



State Representative
SEAN WILLIAMS
Proudly Serving the 68th District
Watertown ★ Oakville ★ Woodbury



Representative Williams speaks to a constituent.

PROTECTING YOUR INTERESTS

Voting for Fiscal Responsibility

The budget that was offered by the majority this year included heavy increases in taxes and spending, as well as a violation of the state spending cap and the squandering of the state surplus. For these reasons, I voted against the budget package.

The budget increases spending 8.9%, cuts absolutely no spending, and exceeds and violates the publicly established Constitutional spending cap by \$110 million. It spends \$650 million of the \$700 million surplus, while including \$738 million in new taxes. In my mind it is completely inappropriate to increase taxes when we have a \$700 million surplus. This is particularly true when you consider that we are in the highest taxed state per capita in the entire country.

Eminent Domain

The issue of the use of eminent domain came to the fore during the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision concerning New London. The court ruled that Connecticut's eminent domain laws are constitutional but stressed that the state could amend them. It is clear that action should be taken as quickly as possible considering the sweep and impact of this court decision. Unfortunately, the Democratic majority defeated an amendment aimed at limiting eminent domain. I joined many of my colleagues in pressing for a special session of the legislature to address this matter and to preserve the private property rights of Connecticut residents.

Reforming the Legislature

Both the state Senate and House took up and passed campaign reform packages; however, agreement could not be reached between the two chambers concerning how state elections are funded and paid for. Governor Rell has assembled a task force to hammer out the details, and will convene a special session of the legislature once the task force reports its plan. This year House Republicans proposed negotiating the state budget in the open instead of behind closed doors, giving 72-hour public notice before voting on any new law and requiring a public hearing on any tax increase. These proposals were shot down by the majority.

Fighting for Fair School Funding

The distribution of education dollars continues to be lopsided. Many of my colleagues and I will continue the fight for fair funding of public education. Currently the state school aid formula sends \$9,000 per pupil to students in the cities, while suburban children receive state funding as low as \$100.

CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS WORK 123 DAYS OUT OF THE YEAR JUST TO PAY THEIR TAXES



For Seniors and Veterans

This year the legislature passed measures that provide discounted in-state tuition to military personnel stationed in Connecticut. We also provided a variety of additional benefits for members of the Connecticut National Guard.

Money was allocated to implement the federal Medicare Part D prescription drug program, and the state's Commission on Aging was moved from the Department of Social Services to the legislative branch.

Transportation

The Governor's proposal to implement a \$1.3 billion comprehensive transportation restructuring for the state was approved by the legislature this year, which is aimed at improving state highways and interstates, as well as upgrading public transportation. The legislature also passed measures that ban the use of hand-held cell phones while driving, prohibit the use of pocket bikes on all public roads, expand the required use of booster seats for children, and add certain restrictions on teenage drivers.



Representative Williams works on legislation on the floor of the House with Representative DebraLee Hovey of Monroe.

Identity Theft

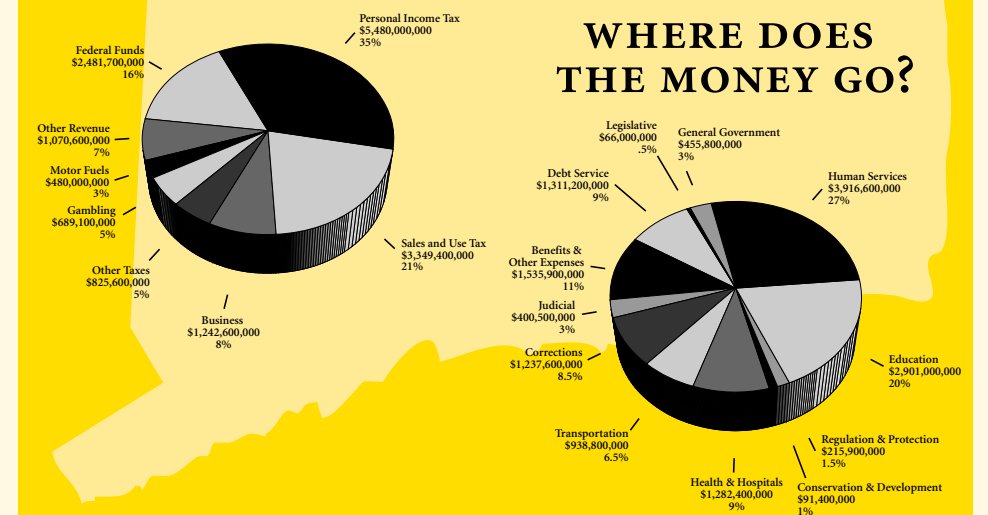
Due to the increased incidence of identity theft the legislature passed a bill allowing consumers to place a freeze on their credit report and requires a credit bureau to place the freeze within five days. The credit freeze prohibits a creditor from giving information to any third party without the creditor's permission.

Rep. Williams visits with his friends Brad Davis (left) and Dan Lovallo (right) from WDRC AM at Mary's Diner in Waterbury.



BUDGET ENDING JUNE 30, 2005 THE 2005 GENERAL FUND AND THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND TOGETHER SPEND \$14.4 BILLION

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?



*Revenues Exceeded Spending Leaving A General Fund Surplus of \$777 Million